

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 4th, 2005. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-49 are in the case.

Claim 1 has been amended to better claim the invention.

Claims 35-49 have been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

At page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10, 12, 14-17, 20, 21, 23-26 and 29-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Chandra et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,058,389, issued on May 2nd, 2000 (hereinafter Chandra).

Applicant's claim 1, representative in part of the other rejected claims, sets forth:

1. A method for performing a scheduling assist function, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to schedule an event;

calculating an expiration time associated with the event using information contained in the request, the information describing an output channel;

determining if conditions are met to issue a notification, the conditions at least including that the expiration time has been reached; and issuing a notification if conditions are met.

Chandra discloses a queuing system for a database that manages messages from clients by placing them in an ordered list. *See* col. 3, lines 1-15. Clients include in an Enqueue request for a messages a "Delay" field whose value "represents the earliest time

when the message should be scheduled for processing” and an “Expiration” field whose value “specifies the latest time at which the message can be processes.” *See* col. 14, lines 17-45 and Fig 4B. A Time manager uses the “Delay” and “Expiration” parameters and ensures the specific message is processed in this time interval between them. *See* col. 11, line 11-14 and col. 28, lines 17-30.

The Applicant respectfully urges that Chandra is silent concerning the Applicant’s claimed “*calculating an expiration time associated with the event using information contained in the request, the information describing an output channel*” and “*determining if conditions are met to issue a notification the conditions at least including that the expiration time has been reached.*”

While the Applicant claims *calculating an expiration time using information describing an output channel* Chandra lacks any teaching of calculating such a time using such information. First, Chandra’s Time Manager in no way calculates either the Delay or Expiration times it uses. Such times are set by clients accessing Chandra’s database system, and are transferred to the system as parameters to an Enqueue command. That is, rather than calculate these times, Chandra merely accepts them as input parameters. A greater description of this process may be found at Chandra col. 14, lines 10-45. Second, even if Chandra’s Time Manager could be interpreted as performing a step of calculating, such calculating could be interpreted as *using information describing an output channel*. Chandra, as a database system, has no conception of an output channel or of information describing such a channel that could be useful in calculating an expiration time.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully urges that Chandra is legally insufficient to anticipate the present claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) because of the absence of the Applicant’s claimed novel “*calculating an expiration time associated with the event us-*

ing information contained in the request, the information describing an output channel and *“determining if conditions are met to issue a notification the conditions at least including that the expiration time has been reached.”*

In the event that the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in disposition of this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 951-3078.

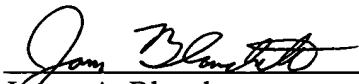
All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims.

The Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,


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